

REMARKS

This paper is in response to the official action dated April 13, 2006, wherein claims 13-16 and 24-28 were rejected and claims 22 and 23 were objected to but deemed allowable in substance.

By the foregoing amendments, claim 13 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 22, and allowable claim 23 has been rewritten in independent form by incorporating the limitations of claim 1. Further, claim 16 has been amended to be more clearly consistent with the specification (see page 2, lines 4-6, for example), and dependent claims 29-36 corresponding to original claims 14-16 and 24-28, respectively, have been added.

As a result of the foregoing amendments, claims 13-16 and 23-36 (a total of 18 claims, including two independent claims) are pending. No additional fee is due.

In view of the amendment to claim 16, it is believed that the rejection of that claim under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph has been overcome, and an indication to that effect is solicited.

In view of the amendment to claim 13, the revision to claim 23, and the addition of new dependent claims, it is believed that all claims 13-16 and 23-36 patentably define over the art, and an indication to that effect is solicited.

Entry of the foregoing amendments after final rejection is believed to be proper, and is solicited. The amendments add no new issues, and put the claims in better form for allowance or consideration on appeal.

Should the examiner wish to discuss the foregoing or any matter of form in an effort to advance this application toward allowance, she is urged to telephone the undersigned at the indicated number.

Respectfully submitted,

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